

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21, 24, 26-53, 56, and 58-65 are pending with Claims 1-19, 28-51, and 60-65 being withdrawn from consideration. Claims 22, 23, 25, 54, 55, and 57 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Claims 20, 24, 26, 27, 52, 56, 58, and 59 have been amended to better reflect the showings of FIGS. 15-20 discussed in the specification at page 53, line 21 to page 64, line 2, for example. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced.

The outstanding Action objected to various documents submitted as parts of different IDS filings, rejected Claims 20, 27, 52, and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurita (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,257), rejected Claims 21-23 and 53-55 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita in view of Kihara, rejected Claims 24 and 56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,041,905, Hatanaka), rejected Claims 25 and 57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka and Watanabe (U.S. Published Patent Application no. 2003/0151782), and rejected Claims 26 and 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka and Suino et al. (U.S. Published Patent Application no. 2004/0013310, Suino).

The objection to JP 9-27901 filed with the IDS submitted December 5, 2003, is traversed because this document was submitted with the English abstract from the corresponding Japanese Application 02-111973 that bears publication No. 010765. See the cover sheet of JP-3176052 that clearly references Japanese Application 02-111973. Accordingly, as JP-3176052 was filed with the English abstract from corresponding Japanese Application 02-111973, proper consideration is respectfully requested.

The objection to JP 9-27901 filed with the IDS submitted July 30, 2007, is traversed because U.S. Patent No. 5,726,766 is an English-language equivalent that can be submitted to fulfill the requirement for a statement of relevancy as noted in MPEP §609.04(a). The cover sheet of JP 9-27901 clearly notes the corresponding Japanese Application Serial No. to be 7-177014 and this is the same Japanese Application Serial No. 7-177014 claimed for foreign priority by U.S. Patent No. 5,726,766. Accordingly, proper consideration of JP 9-27901 filed with the IDS submitted July 30, 2007, is respectfully requested.

The objection to JP 11-127340 filed with the IDS submitted August 24, 2007, is traversed because U.S. Patent No. 6,441, 913 is an English-language equivalent that can be submitted to fulfill the requirement for a statement of relevancy as noted in MPEP §609.04(a). The cover sheet of JP 11-127340 clearly notes the corresponding Japanese Application Serial No. to be 9-291981 and this is the same Japanese Application Serial No. 9-291981 claimed for foreign priority by U.S. Patent No. 6,441, 913. Accordingly, proper consideration of JP 11-127340 filed with the IDS submitted August 24, 2007, is respectfully requested.

The objection to JP 9-186866 filed with the IDS submitted August 27, 2007, is traversed because the attached copy of the cover sheet of JP 9-186866 filed August 27, 2007, and the attached copy of the electronic filing receipt filed August 27, 2007, clearly indicate that this cover sheet does include an English Abstract contrary to the assertion in the outstanding Action. Accordingly, proper consideration of JP 9-186866 filed with the IDS submitted August 27, 2007, is respectfully requested.

The rejection of Claims 20, 27, 52, and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurita is believed to have been overcome by the present amendment that incorporates subject matter similar to that previously presented in dependent Claims 22 and

54 (that are correspondingly now canceled) into independent Claims 20 and 52 and changes the dependency of Claim 27 to be Claim 24 and that of Claim 59 to be Claim 56.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 21-23 and 53-55 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita in view of Kihara, the cancellation of Claims 22, 23, 54 and 55 renders their rejection moot. To the extent that subject matter from Claim 22 has been incorporated into Claim 20 and subject matter from Claim 54 has been incorporated into Claim 52, this incorporated subject matter has been further augmented by requiring that the magnifying of the second component signal of the color image signals, which is different from the first component signal of the color image signals, must be based on a ratio between at least the first component signal and the second component signal as described at page 5, line 19, to page 56, line 3, of the specification, for example. Neither Kurita nor Kihara teach or suggest this magnifying of the second component signal of the color image signals, which is different from the first component signal of the color image signals, based on a ratio between the first component signal and the second component signal.

In this last respect, Kurita only discloses a zooming unit B (234) that magnifies the CMY signal and a zooming unit A (211) that magnifies the CMYK signal processed as to gamma correction (or URC) by 214. To whatever extent that Kihara teaches a viewfinder luminance signal with a wide 16:9 aspect ratio (a well known ratio of viewing dimensions) and difference signals R-Y and B-Y of this same wide aspect ratio, these wide aspect ratios and the standard TV screen aspect ratio of 4:3 have nothing to do with ratios of color component signals as apparently misinterpreted at page 7, lines 4-8 of the outstanding Action as to col. 9, lines 61-68, and col. 10, lines 1-23, of Kihara.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 20 and 52 are clearly patentable over Kurita in view of Kihara.

The rejection of Claims 24 and 56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka is traversed. Claims 24 and 56 now require magnifying the luminance signal using a magnifying method including interpolating a luminance reference pixel area of wide extent and magnifying the color difference image signals using a magnifying method including interpolating a reference pixel area that is narrower than the wide reference pixel area so that predetermined color information included in the color image difference signals is retained even after magnifying the color difference signal. None of Kurita, Kihara, and/or Hatanaka considered alone or together in any proper combination teaches or suggests this claimed subject matter.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 24 and 56 are clearly patentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka.

The rejection of Claims 25 and 57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka and Watanabe is first of all noted to be moot as Claims 25 and 57 have been canceled. To the extent that the subject matter of canceled Claim 25 has been incorporated into Claim 24 and the subject matter of canceled Claim 57 has been incorporated into Claim 56, this incorporated subject matter has been augmented to make it clear that luminance signal magnification uses a magnification method that interpolates a luminance reference pixel area of wide extent while the color difference signal magnification uses a magnification method that interpolates a color reference pixel area that is narrower as compared with the luminance reference pixel area. This claimed augmentation is based on the disclosure in the specification at page 58, line 17, to page 59, line 14, for example, and none of Kurita, Kihara, Hatanaka, and/or Watanabe considered alone or together in any proper combination teach or suggest this claimed subject matter.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 24 and 56 are clearly patentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka and Watanabe.

The rejection of Claims 26 and 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka and Suino is traversed because Claim 26 depends on independent Claim 24 and Claim 58 depends on independent Claim 52 and Suino does not correct the above-noted deficiencies of Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka as to the subject matter of these independent claims.

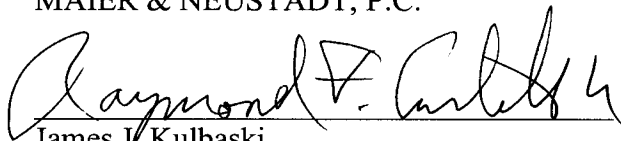
Further, Claim 26 adds subject matter to that of independent Claim 24 and Claim 58 adds subject matter to that of independent Claim 52 that is further not taught or suggested by any of Kurita, Kihara, Hatanaka, and/or Suino considered alone or together in any proper combination.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 26 and 58 are clearly patentable over Kurita in view of Kihara in further view of Hatanaka and Suino for all the reasons noted above.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that no further issues remain outstanding in the present application, and that this application is clearly in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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